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Police

Strength and cost of the armed force.

1443 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the sanctioned strength of the armed force ;

(b) the places where they are located and the strength at each such stations ;

(c) the total cost incurred in 1926–27 ; and

(d) the number and nature of occasions when they were used in 1926–27 ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member presumably means by "the Armed Force" the District Armed Police Reserves. The total strength of these reserves is—

Twenty-seven Inspectors,
Sixty-eight Sergeants,
One Jamadar,
Twenty-seven Havildar-Majors,
Two hundred and ninety-three head constables, and
Three thousand three hundred and five constables.

(b) A statement[a] is appended.

(c) In Madras City, Rs. 1,87,464–0–0 (this is exclusive of Railway warrants) ; in the mufassal, Rs. 12,33,803–0–0.

(d) In addition to their normal duties such as providing guards, escorts and orderlies the armed reserves were called out on the following occasions :—

	Number of occasions.	Nature of occasions.
In the Madras City.	5	Muharram bandobast, General elections, and certain labour troubles.
In the mufassal ...	129	Festival bandobast.
	28	Prevention of breach of peace.
	18	Special duty in connexion with the visit of high personages.

Water-rate

Issue of tickets for taking water from Cuddapah-Kurnool canal.

1444-A Q.—Mr. A. Parasurama Rao : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the ryots who take water of the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal have to obtain tickets beforehand ;

(b) if so, who is the officer who is authorized to issue such tickets ;

(c) whether such tickets are sold ; if so, who sells them ; and

(d) whether any penalty is prescribed if no tickets are obtained beforehand and under what rule ?

[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 353 infra.

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A.—(a) Yes in the case of dry lands.
(b) The Tahsildar.
(c) The tickets are not sold but water-rate is charged on the irrigation.
(d) Yes. The hon. Member's attention is invited to Appendix L on page 28 of Board's Standing Order, Volume II.

Boilers

Appointment of the Chief Inspector of Boilers.

1445 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to the answer to Mr. C. Gopala Menon's question No. 793 answered on 21st October 1927, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what qualifications have been laid down for the appointment of the Chief Inspector of Boilers and of the officers under him; and

(b) whether any Indian with the required university qualifications and training has been appointed to any of the places and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) The qualifications are prescribed in rules 5 and 11 of the Madras Boiler Rules, 1924, as follows:—

The Chief Inspector shall be a qualified Mechanical Engineer with practical experience of boilers, prime-movers and machinery.

An Inspector shall be a Mechanical Engineer with practical experience of boilers, prime-movers and machinery, the possession of a first class Board of Trade certificate or equivalent qualification being desirable though not absolutely essential.

(b) No; presumably because suitable applicants were not forthcoming.

Excise

Illicit manufacture of toddy in Cuddapah district.

1446 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the tapping of sweet juice from date trees is permitted in the Cuddapah district;

(b) whether such tapping was for some time prohibited in the district;

(c) if so, why such a prohibition has been now removed;

(d) whether such a tapping is permitted in the locality where trees are marked for tapping toddy;

(e) whether there are extensive areas in some of the taluks of the Cuddapah district where date trees stand and where, under the cover of tapping sweet juice, illicit toddy is being manufactured;

(f) if the hon. Minister is not aware of such a thing going on, whether he will institute necessary enquiry to find out in what close proximity of each other sweet juice and toddy are being tapped;

(g) what are the precautions that exist to prevent such illicit manufacture of toddy;